IN THE CLAIMS

Please amend the claims as follows:

Claims 1-6 (Canceled).

Claim 7 (Previously Presented): A lithium secondary battery, wherein:

a cathode, an anode and an electrolyte solution are encased in a housing,

a lithium-containing composite oxide comprising lithium cobalt oxide is contained as a cathode active substance in the cathode, the lithium-containing composite oxide comprises lithium cobalt oxide and Nb, the amount of Nb is 0.001 to 2 at% relative to cobalt in the lithium cobalt oxide,

the electrolyte solution contains γ -butyrolactone as a solvent, the concentration of γ -butyrolactone in the solvent is 60 to 95% by volume, and said housing has a thickness of 0.3 mm or smaller.

Claims 8-13 (Canceled).

Claim 14 (Previously Presented): The lithium secondary battery according to claim 7, wherein the housing has a thickness of 0.15 mm or smaller.

Claims 15-16 (Canceled).

Claim 17 (New): The lithium secondary battery according to claim 7, wherein the cathode further contains polyvinylidene fluoride as a binder.

DISCUSSION OF THE AMENDMENT

The specification has been amended by changing the title and by correcting errors therein. Support for the correction of prior art numbers can be found in the prior art submitted with the IDS filed May 10, 2002. Support for changing "additive element" to --subordinate component element-- can be found in the specification at page 15, line 20.

Claims 3, 5 and 6 have been canceled.

New Claim 17 has been added, as supported in the specification at page 16, lines 3-4, as part of the description of the "Second Embodiment" beginning at page 15, line 14.

No new matter is believed to have been added by the above amendment. Claims 7, 14 and 17 are now pending in the application.